(a) whether Government propose to allow private F.M. Radio companies to use the infrastructure facilities in the metros.

(b) if so, whether any feasibility study has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the recommendations made by the study; and

(d) whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed for providing the facilities, so far?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATIONAND BROADCASTING (SHRTMATI SUSHM A SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that they propose to allow private F M Radio companies to use its infrastructure in 3 metros, namely, Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai.

(b) and (c) The technical examination has been done by Prasar Bharati in this respect and it has been found technically feasible to locate common antenna on existing towers, if necessary with some modifications in these metros.

(d) No Memorandum of Understanding has been signed so far.

**Strategy to tackle the problems of slums and its dwellers**

* 8. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have prepared and finalised a slum policy;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that two-pronged strategy would be adopted to tackle the problems of slums and their dwellers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total amount, so far, agreed to be provided in implementing the scheme; and

(e) the State where this scheme will be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry has prepared a draft "National Slum Policy", however, the same has not been finalized so far. The draft policy has been circulated to all the States/UTs, for their comments/ observations, which are still awaited. The Government has recently decided to launch a new scheme known as "Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana" (VAMBAY)

with a two pronged strategy *viz.* to provide shelter or upgrade the existing shelter for people below poverty line in urban slums for achieving the goal of "Housing for all" as outlined in the National Housing and Habitat Policy and to provide sanitation coverage to slums under 'Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan', a sub-component of VAMBAY in all the mega cities, metro cities and other States/UTs capitals.

(c) and (d) Under the "Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana", an annual grant of Rs. 1000 crore has been announced which is to be matched equally by HUDCO as a loan component. As a sub-component of VAMBAY, it is proposed to introduce a National City Sanitation Programme or Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan under which it is proposed to cover slums in all the mega cities, metro cities and other States / UTs capitals with 100 per cent sanitation coverage. The community toilet will be maintained by community Based Organisations (CBOs) from among slum dwellers memselves and each slum family will be provided a family pass for use @ Rs. 20 or so per month, which is far less than what is available from existing pay and use toilets run by other organisations.

(e) The "Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana" scheme will be applicable to all the States/UTs.

**Unauthorised constructions in the capital**

* 9. SHRIABANI ROY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether unauthorised constructions in the capital have once again been increasing on mass scale during the past few months;

(b) if so, whether the civic agencies, DDA and Delhi Police are keeping their eyes closed on such clandestine activities;

(c) if so, whether Government have taken/propose to take any steps to check such unauthorised constructions and also to pull down such constructions which have unauthorisedly taken place earlier; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.